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MEMORANDUM

25 February 1952

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To: Comptroller

From: Chief, Finance Division *WR*

Subj: Construction of a vault; procurement of a bulletproof car; recruitment of guards; temporary measures to increase security.

Ref: Comptroller's memorandum to Inspection and Security, dated 4 February 1952.

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On 14 February 1952, [redacted] of Inspection and Security, [redacted] Chief Building Maintenance and Utilities Division, and [redacted] and [redacted] of the Finance Division met in the latter's office. The discussion concerned proposals to construct a vault to safeguard official funds, to procure a bulletproof car for the use of Agency employees engaged in transporting official funds in large amounts, the use of guards to provide armed protection for official funds being transported, and possible changes in present procedures to enhance security of funds until the protective devices are acquired. The following resume of the meeting is submitted for your information.

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A. VAULT

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1. [redacted] stated that Inspection and Security recognized our need for a vault, and that he would forward to [redacted] his written recommendation that one be constructed. His recommendation will state generally what IAS considers to be necessary in a building of this type. Upon receipt of this document, [redacted] will attach to it his own recommendations and the PBA estimate, and forward it for approval.

2. The various aspects of the construction were discussed, and the consensus was that such a building should contain the following features:

- a. In order to afford maximum protection, the funds storage room should be at second-floor level, approximately three feet from the main building, and connected to the main building by an enclosed ramp.

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- c. The lower floor should also be adapted to Finance Division use, preferably as a garage for the bulletproof car. This would not only furnish storage space for the car, but would enable Agency employees to bring funds directly into the building without being exposed. Since there is a small transformer building between Wings 1 and 2 of Building I, the adoption of this proposal would necessitate the physical relocation of the Monetary Branch in the West side of Wing 2 from its present location in the East side.

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3. [redacted] on 26 February, informed the undersigned that the PBA estimate for this building was \$30,000. He also stated that he considered this a liberal estimate, and the cost would, in his opinion, be approximately \$22,000, exclusive of the vault doors.

4. To afford added protection until the vault is constructed, an electric alarm system is to be installed in the quarters of the Monetary Branch.

B. GUARDS

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1. [redacted] stated that, at the present time, IAS does not have sufficient personnel to provide armed escorts for the numerous trips to the banks. His suggestion, in which the undersigned concurred, was that two additional guards be employed and trained for this purpose, and that they be permanently attached to the Finance Division.

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2. With respect to the recruitment of these guards, it was pointed out by [redacted] that they could be employed by either IAS or the Finance Division. His recommendation was that they be employed by the Finance Division since IAS would have no call on their services, and, in any event, IAS would have no fill-in duties which could be assigned to them on a part-time basis. It is also contemplated that these guards will be used as drivers of the bulletproof car.

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3. It was further recommended by [redacted] that, in addition to the guards, two or three Finance Division employees, who normally are required to transport money, be trained in the use of the small arms which will be part of the equipment of the bulletproof car. These employees have already qualified with revolvers, and have been issued permits to carry firearms when transporting official funds.

C. BULLETPROOF CAR

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1. [redacted] stated that IAS recommended the use of a bulletproof car, but that its procurement should be the subject of a memorandum directed to the Chief, Administrative Services. A draft of such a memorandum has been prepared and is attached for your consideration.

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2. This car should be a four door sedan of a standard make, large enough to carry the additional weight. It should be equipped with bulletproof glass, and should have laminated fibreglass panels, or other bulletproof material, between the sheet metal panels of the car, and on either side of the engine. In addition, it should be equipped with such other features normally found in vehicles of this type, including concealed gun cabinets, an alarm system, bulletproof tires, etc. It should not, however, have any visible appurtenance which would distinguish it from another automobile of similar make.

3. The cost of this vehicle is estimated at \$7,500.

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4. [redacted] also recommended that the car not be garaged at the car pool, inasmuch as such a vehicle would attract considerable attention among the garage attendants, mechanics, and drivers, and would eventually become well known among other government chauffeurs. As previously stated, a garage below the vault is recommended.

[redacted]
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Chief, Monetary Branch

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